



Docket No.: 360842007600
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Kimikazu NAGASE, et al

Application No.: 09/825,931

Group Art Unit: 1752

Filed: April 5, 2001

Examiner: Amanda C. Walke

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
2011 South Clark Place
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Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Some of the references were cited in an European Search Report issued May 16, 2003, during the prosecution of European application No. EP01303231, which corresponds to the above referenced application, and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(c) and (e)(1) or (b)(3), hereby submit(s) these documents for the Examiner's consideration. These documents are cited on the enclosed PTO Form SB/08, and a copy of the International Search Report and each document cited thereon are enclosed as well.

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This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits but before a Notice of Allowance; accordingly, a fee is required. A Fee Transmittal form PTO/SB/17 is attached for this purpose. A copy of each reference on PTO/SB/08 is attached. English translations are attached for non-English documents.

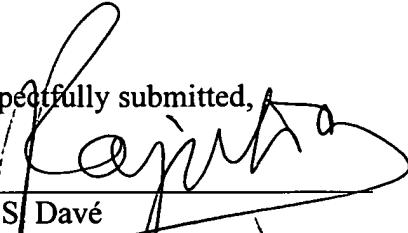
While the information and references disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

In the event that the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing 36042007600. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: July 28, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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